

**PARK COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEON VALLEY, TEXAS
MARCH 8, 2016 MEETING MINUTES**

The Park Commission of the City of Leon Valley, Texas met on the 8th day of March, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., at 6421 Evers Road, Leon Valley, Texas, for the purpose of the following business, to-wit:

LEON VALLEY PARK COMMISSION MEETING, 7:00 P.M.

1. Call the Meeting to Order and Determine a Quorum is Present.

Chairman Roger Christensen called the Park Commission meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., with the following Park Commissioners in attendance: Carolyn Gabriel, Steve Parker, Belinda Ealy, Kathy Hill, Dorothy Humphrey, Jackie Walton, and Alternates Josue De La Torre and Danielle Bolton. Absent and excused were Commissioners Benay Cacciatore and Linda Tarin. Also present were Councilmember Monica Alcocer, City Staff member Melinda Moritz and resident Robert Jarzombek.

2. Review and Approval of the February 9, 2016 Regular Park Commission Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Hill made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2015 Regular Park Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ealy. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Citizens to be Heard

Robert Jarzombek of 7210 Grass Valley spoke, requesting that a street light be installed at the crosswalk at the library. The Commissioners agreed with Mr. Jarzombek and Commissioner Torre stated that a light was also needed to see when crossing the Huebner Creek bridge. Staff member Moritz told the Commission that lights had been ordered and would be installed upon receipt.

4. Report on Activities that Impact the Park or Access to the Park

a. Discussion and Possible Recommendation: Park Variance Requests

**1. San Antonio Astronomical Society – Use of Raymond
Rimkus Park After Dark**

Staff member Moritz reported that the Variance Request had been taken before City Council and that it had been approved for a period of eight weeks, starting with the first Wednesday in March. She explained that the event would be reported at the April Park Commission meeting, but that they would be continuing the activity longer than what was expected, as the group had previous commitments and couldn't start until the March 1st date.

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Commissioner Parker said the event had a minimal impact on Park activities. Commissioner Hill stated that they were using much larger telescopes than she had imagined. Councilmember Alcocer mentioned how wonderful the group was, stating that she had attended one of the events, bringing her own telescope which hadn't been used, and that they had spent a lot of time setting it up, and that they were very patient with her, explaining its use. She suggested that anyone wishing to attend go a little earlier to get setup in time.

2. Darrick Green, Communications Director – 4th of July Event

Mr. Green addressed the Commission, giving a presentation on the planning for the 4th of July event. He stated that events originally planned included pony rides, moonwalks and carnival rides, additional electrical power, two stages, food and beer booths, and fireworks. He explained that the moonwalks and carnival rides may not be feasible due to the costs, but that he was still waiting for some quotes. He also explained that the additional power may not be installed prior to this year's event, as CPS takes a long time to install new meters.

Commissioner Parker reminded Mr. Green that any plans for pony or carnival rides and additional lighting would have to be approved by the Park Commission and the City Council, as this would require a variance from the Code.

A general discussion was held on subjects such as booth price increase, trash pickup at the event, temporary labor, and site layout. Commissioner Hill made a motion to give tentative acceptance of the variance requests until such time as Mr. Green was sure of his event needs. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ealy, and the vote passed unanimously.

Mr. Green informed the Commission that he had received a grant opportunity from United Way to start a Wounded Warrior Project, which would include training at Raymond Rimkus Park.

Commissioner Walton asked if this was to be a one-time event or if it would be ongoing. Mr. Green replied that it was still under development and would depend on the amount of funds received. He further explained that the program would tentatively include wheelchair tennis and basketball, and similar activities.

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Commission Parker stated that, while he was in full support of the Wounded Warriors, he thought the park might not be large enough, depending on the numbers in attendance. Mr. Green stated that he would keep the Park Commission updated as the plans developed.

Chairman Christensen stated that he was receptive to the concept, but if any significant modifications were planned for the Park, he would like Mr. Green to provide reports to the Commission.

b. B. Bexar County Flood Control LC-17 Phase III Huebner Creek Update

Staff member Moritz gave a brief update on the Bexar County Flood Control LC-17 project, stating the Phase II portion of the project was just about finished.

5. Commissioner and Staff Comments

Staff member Moritz gave an update on the Silo Park development, noting that the new water well would not interfere with any planned amenities at the park, and that the jogging path would be installed during the coming months. She then let the Park Commission know that the County would be using the Shadow Mist Park as storage for their materials during the Phase III portion of their project, but that she had budgeted some money for improvements in the next fiscal year.

Commissioner Bolton stated that she needed more information on the power plan for the park.

Commissioner Torre stated that Zoning Commissioner Dieckert uses the park often and has a sight disability. He stated that there are several branches hanging over the jogging path that are dangerous and need to be cut or removed.

Commissioner Hill stated that at the March 1st City Council meeting, the Council and the Historical Society had entered into a Memorandum of Understanding for grounds maintenance and to help raise money for improvements to the homestead. She stated that they would like to be placed on the Park Commission agenda in either April or June.

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Commissioner Gabriel stated that she really liked holding the Park Commission meetings at the Conference Center, as it was easier for her to get to. She also asked if there had been any updates on the possible acquisition of the Forest Oaks pool by the City.

Commissioner Bolton stated that she had not been informed of the Forest Oaks Pool Committee meeting and therefore had missed it. Councilmember Alcocer stated that the report had said 100% attendance and that she would be sure Ms. Bolton was notified for the next meeting.

Commissioner Humphrey stated that she had noticed more loose dogs in the park and that she would like the Animal Control Officer to perform after their regular duty hours. She also stated that she had enjoyed the Earthwise Living Day event, especially the fashion show.

Commissioner Parker stated that he really liked the aerial map of the park and that he would like such a map for the other park areas.

Commissioner Ealy asked if the pool maintenance company was responsible for the mowing of the pool area. Staff member Moritz stated that they were not, but that Public Works would be cutting the grass soon.


Chairman Christensen reminded the Commission of the upcoming work day at the park and to meet near the ball field and bring shears, pruners, shovels, etc., and to keep an eye out for items that needed maintenance.

6. Adjourn.

Commissioner Walton made the motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Parker, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm.



Roger Christensen - Chairman



Date